



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
550 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.
Director

ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.
Chief Deputy Director

RODERICK SHANER, M.D.
Medical Director

August 12, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director

SUBJECT: **ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO SOLE
SOURCE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPECIAL SERVICE FOR
GROUPS**

This memo is to comply with the Board of Supervisors Policy Manual, Section 5.100, Sole Source contract. It is the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (DMH's) intent to amend its current agreement with Special Service for Groups (SSG) to implement the SSG Alliance Integrated Care Mobile Team (ICMT) to provide outreach, integrated services and supportive housing for forty (40) homeless adults and Transition Age Youth (TAY) living in the San Fernando Valley.

In recent years, Los Angeles County has collaborated with governmental and non-governmental agencies to implement creative and innovative programs that address homelessness such as Project 50 in the Skid Row area of downtown Los Angeles. However, chronically homeless individuals with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance abuse disorders and/or complex medical conditions continue to live on the streets, under freeway bridges, and in encampments, parks, or temporary shelters in areas throughout the County.

DMH plans to expand services at SSG to implement the ICMT program in the San Fernando Valley. ICMT will provide outreach and mental health services including treatment for co-occurring substance abuse disorders, medication management, crisis intervention, case management, and benefits establishment for forty (40) homeless individuals in supportive housing for over a two-year period.

The cost for the SSG Mobile Health Team for both Fiscal Years is \$813,500, funded with \$716,000 of Third Supervisorial District Homeless Services funding and \$97,500 of Federal Financial Participation Medi-Cal.

SSG, a contracted DMH and Department of Public Health provider, is uniquely qualified to provide integrated health, mental health, and substance abuse treatment services for these homeless individuals from its existing site in the San Fernando Valley. SSG has a long history of providing a full range of recovery-based mental health and substance

Each Supervisor
July 30, 2013
Page 2

abuse treatment services for the mentally ill homeless population in Service Areas 2, 4, and 6. Agency services include assertive outreach and engagement, individual and group treatment, medication support, crisis intervention, case management, benefits establishment, and employment services. In addition, SSG has the capacity to provide immediate access to medical care through its Federally Qualified Health Center.

Unless otherwise instructed by a Board office within two weeks, DMH will proceed with preparing a sole source contract amendment. DMH will work closely with the Office of the County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office in preparing a contract amendment with SSG.

MJS:RK:MM:mm

c: Health Deputies
Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Robin Kay, Ph.D.
Mary Marx, L.C.S.W.
Contracts Development and Administration